

HEALTH

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Annual Report

ON THE HEALTH OF THE
Ormskirk Urban District

DURING THE YEAR

1946.

J. GORDON HAILWOOD, M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

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of the
Medical Officer of Health*



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Ormskirk Urban District Council

Chairman W. J. COULTON, J.P.

Vice-Chairman JOHN PRESCOTT, J.P.

COUNCILLORS J. P. BERRY.
 W. BURROWS, J.P.
 A. CARROLL.
 J. DAWSON.
 S. EDDEN.
 W. E. JONES.
 A. P. LEA.
 J. LIVESEY.
 J. LITTLE.
 A. E. NEWALL.
 P. H. PARKER.
 E. PICKLES.
 R. ROTHWELL.
 D. C. M. SCOTT.
 W. SEPHTON.
 J. P. STURGESS.
 D. TAYLOR.
 R. H. TAYLOR.
 E. T. TRIGG.
 T. T. TRUSCOTT.
 C. W. VICKERS.
 J. T. WHITTLE, J.P.

Health and Hospital Committee

Chairman COUNICLLOR JOHN PRESCOTT, J.P.

Vice-Chairman COUNCILLOR W. J. COULTON, J.P.

COUNCILLORS J. P. BERRY.
A. CARROLL.
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J. LIVESEY.
A. E. NEWALL.
E. PICKLES.
R. ROTHWELL.
W. SEPHTON.
D. TAYLOR.

Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health :

H. E. MARSDEN, J.P., M.B., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law.
To 1st April, 1946.

S. C. GAWNE, M.D., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.,
D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law. April 1st to November, 30th,
1946.

J. G. HAILWOOD, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
From December 1st, 1946.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

C. F. H. SERGEANT, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspectors :

NORMAN W. CHADWICK, M.R.San.I.
ALFRED HEALY, A.R.San.I.

Matron of Isolation Hospital.:

MISS M. E. HARRIS, S.R.N.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of Ormskirk for 1946, which is compiled from the records of the late Dr. Marsden and of Dr. S. C. Gawne, who acted as Medical Officer of Health for most of the year. I would like to take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of Dr. Marsden's work in the past and of thanking Dr. Gawne for his work for Ormskirk during 1946.

It only remains for me to comment on some of the features of the Report.

The Birth Rate increased during the year to 17.4 per 1,000 population compared with 14.0 for 1945, an increase of 3.4. Although this is lower than the figure of 19.0 for England and Wales it is nevertheless a highly satisfactory position. The actual number of births was 356 compared with 272 in 1945.

At the same time the Death Rate of 10.6 per 1,000 population showed a small reduction compared with 1945 when it stood at 10.8. The General rate for England and Wales was 11.5.

Other satisfactory figures are the Infant Mortality Rate of 39 per 1,000 births which, though considerably higher than the record low rate of 18 in 1945, still compares favourably with the rate of 43 for England and Wales.

The Maternal Mortality Rate was nil, a standard at which the whole country is aiming. There has only been one maternal death in Ormskirk during the last six years. It is probable that this continued low Maternal Mortality Rate is largely due to the generous provision of Maternity beds in the Ormskirk County Hospital, enabling any expectant mother, whose condition or home circumstances warrant it, to obtain hospital accommodation without difficulty.

The general health of the district remained good during the year, and the numbers of Infectious Diseases remained at a low level. There was a further reduction in the number of cases of Diphtheria, only six cases being notified, and three of these were over school age. Immunisation against Diphtheria is, without doubt, the reason for this low incidence. A further 315 children were immunised during the year, of which 153 were under 2 years of age. The advantages of this early immunisation against Diphtheria cannot be over-emphasized.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. G. HAILWOOD.

August, 1947.

Annual Report for 1946.

—:o:—

SECTION 1.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area. 15,608 acres.

Population. The population according to the 1931 Census was 17,121, but the Registrar General estimates that at the middle of 1946 the population was 20,360.

Number of Inhabited Houses. At the end of 1946 the number of inhabited houses, according to the Rate Books was 5,498.

The Rateable Value at the end of the year was £119,062, and the sum represented by a penny rate was £465.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

During the war years there was little progress or development and the population has suffered in recent years from overcrowding due to shortage of dwelling houses. The Council has made a resolute effort to provide additional houses but, in spite of present-day difficulties, 32 Council Houses were built by the end of 1946, while at the end of June, 1947 a further 48 houses had been completed. Housing progress is being made at sites in Ormskirk, Burscough, Westhead and Newburgh, and it is hoped that a big step forward in the campaign for the relief of overcrowding will have been made by the end of 1947.

The Urban District of Ormskirk occupies 15,608 acres of the West Lancashire plain. The ancient town of Ormskirk is situated on the highest ground in the area, and the village of Newburgh is pleasantly sited on a small hill, otherwise the district is flat or gently undulating.

Three-quarters of the district is rural in character. The chief interest of the population is agriculture or allied employment ; indeed, Ormskirk is locally known as the capital of this large agricultural area, and the ruling prices at the weekly market are quoted all over the country.

Burscough is a small town 3 miles north of Ormskirk, and here are situated a large permanent Army Ordnance Depot and an Air Station. Apart from agriculture, the chief industries include a brass foundry, 2 breweries, an ironfoundry, 2 timber yards, a printing and bookbinding works, a flour mill, an oatmeal mill, three brickworks, and factories for the manufacture of cakes and biscuits, wooden handles, neckwear, sausages, fertiliser and automobile oils.

Transport facilities are good. The main L.M.S. line from Liverpool to Scotland crosses the Southport-Manchester line at right angles in the centre of the district, and there are six railway stations in the area. Road transport services are good ; and there is also the Leeds and Liverpool Canal for the carriage of heavy merchandise.

Since 1931 the Urban District has included, in addition to Ormskirk, the townships of Lathom and Burscough, parts of Aughton, Bickerstaffe and Scarisbrick, and the hamlets of Newburgh and Westhead. During the war years there has been little progress or development, and the chief handicaps from which the population suffers are overcrowding and shortage of dwelling houses.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population—Registrar General's estimate, mid-194620,360

	TOTAL.	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate	329	158	171
Illegitimate	27	10	17
Total	356	168	188

Birth Rate per 1,000, estimated population mid-1946—17.4.

	TOTAL.	M.	F.
Still births	8	3	5

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 21

	TOTAL.	M.	F.
Deaths	216	108	108

Death Rate per 1,000, estimated population 10.6

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other maternal causes	Nil	Nil
Total maternal mortality	Nil	Nil

Death Rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	39
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	36
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	74

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	38
„ „ Diphtheria (all ages)	1
„ „ Measles (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

TABLE SHOWING BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES FOR ORMSKIRK (INCLUDING LATHOM AND BURSCOUGH).

Year	Estimated Population	Birth Rate		Death Rate		Infantile Mort. Rate	
		England & Wales	Ormskirk	England & Wales	Ormskirk	England & Wales	Ormskirk
1920	14,124	25.4	12.7	12.4	14.0	80	71
1921	15,230	22.4	17.1	12.1	11.7	83	91
1922	15,257	20.6	18.7	12.9	13.0	77	80
1923	15,244	19.7	18.9	11.6	12.2	69	65
1924	15,272	18.8	18.5	12.2	12.8	75	70
1925	15,338	18.3	16.2	12.2	13.4	75	76
1926	15,509	17.8	16.3	11.6	12.3	70	94
1927	15,725	16.7	15.0	12.3	12.5	69	51
1928	15,406	16.7	14.9	11.7	12.1	64	21
1929	15,313	16.3	14.2	13.4	14.0	74	68
1930	15,950	16.3	15.4	11.4	12.6	60	77
1931	17,200	15.8	12.8	12.3	12.2	66	31
1932	17,240	15.3	14.5	12.0	11.1	65	67
1933	17,410	14.4	12.5	12.3	13.4	64	82
1934	17,670	14.8	12.1	11.8	11.3	59	74
1935	17,860	14.7	13.8	11.7	12.7	57	64
1936	18,090	14.8	13.6	12.1	11.2	59	40
1937	18,300	14.9	12.6	12.4	11.5	58	68
1938	18,400	15.1	15.2	11.6	10.7	53	24
1939	18,930	15.0	15.5	12.1	12.8	50	58
1940	19,660	14.6	13.3	14.3	13.1	55	45
1941	20,490	12.2	14.3	12.9	12.0	59	6
1942	20,200	15.8	16.6	11.6	10.8	49	41
1943	19,250	16.5	16.9	12.1	12.2	49	64
1944	18,500	17.6	18.5	11.6	11.7	46	75
1945	19,320	16.1	14.0	11.4	10.8	46	18
1946	20,560	19.1	17.4	11.5	10.6	43	59

NOTE.—The figures for the years 1920-1930 inclusive are calculated from records of the two Urban Districts of Ormskirk and Lathom and Burscough. They are approximately comparable to the figures for the new Urban District from 1931 onwards.

	Per 1,000 of estimated population.				Maternal mortality rate		Rate of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births
	Live birth-rate	Crude death-rate	Death-rate from tuberculosis of respiratory system	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 LIVE births	Per 1,000 TOTAL (live and still) births	
Population— For birth-rate	20,360						
For death rates							
Mean of 5 years, 1941-1945	16.0	11.5	0.28	1.68	0.73	0.71	53
Year—1945	14.0	10.8	0.25	1.65	3.67	3.59	18
1946	17.4	*10.6	0.29	1.86	nil	nil	39
Increase or decrease in 1946 on— 5 years' average. 1941-1945	+1.4	—0.9	+0.01	+0.18	—0.73	—0.71	—14
Previous year	+3.4	—0.2	+0.04	+0.21	—3.67	—3.59	+21

The Birth rate for England and Wales was 19.1 for Ormskirk 17.4.
The Death rate for England and Wales was 11.5, for Ormskirk 10.6.
The Infantile Mortality rate for England and Wales was 43, for Ormskirk 39.

The Maternal mortality rate for England and Wales was 1.43, for Ormskirk Nil.

Details of the Deaths are as follows :—

CAUSES OF DEATH :	M.	F.
Para-typhoid Fever	1	—
Diphtheria	—	1
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	2	4
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—
Influenza	2	2
Cancer (all form)	20	18
Diabetes	1	1
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	12	16
Heart Diseases	26	35
Bronchitis	8	4
Pneumonia	6	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
Digestive Diseases	2	2
Nephritis	3	1
Premature Birth	1	1
Congenital Malformations and Birth Injuries	2	7
Road Traffic accidents	2	—

Other Violent causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	—
All other causes	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	14
						<hr/>	
Total						108	108

SECTION 2.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

An E.M.S. Laboratory is established at the County Hospital, Ormskirk, and the majority of specimens are examined there. This has proved of great convenience for the local hospitals and general practitioners, since results are now obtained without delay. Certain specimens requiring more complicated procedure are sent to the City Bacteriological Laboratories, Liverpool.

The following specimens were sent for examination during the year :—

- 140 swabs for Bacillus Diphtheria.
- 20 swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci.
- 3 specimens of blood.
- 5 specimens of urine.
- 20 specimens of fæces.
- 14 specimens of milk.
- 4 specimens of water.
- 6 specimens of ice cream.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Ambulance services are considered adequate to meet the needs of the district. A motor ambulance is hired from the West Lancashire Rural District Council for infectious cases, while the Council's own ambulance, together with the Ormskirk General Hospital and the P.A.C. ambulances are available for non-infectious cases.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Ormskirk District Nursing Association provides a nurse who undertakes general nursing in the home. This is a Voluntary body affiliated to the County Nursing Association. The work done by the District Nurse is a great value to the townspeople and is much appreciated.

During the year 1946 the following work was carried out :—

Cases attended	.....	81
Visits paid	.....	1842

The provision of a domiciliary midwifery service is the responsibility of the County Council, who provides a midwife resident in Ormskirk to carry out the domiciliary midwifery work in the district. Unfortunately, no house is available, and this midwife has been unable to find suitable living accommodation, where she can also interview prospective patients.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Ormskirk is well supplied with hospitals.

The Ormskirk General Hospital provides accommodation for acute and other cases from Ormskirk and district. It has an Out-Patient Department fully staffed by consulting surgeons and physicians from Liverpool.

The Ormskirk County Hospital has a large Maternity block and also admits chronic and senile cases from the surrounding districts.

The Ormskirk Infectious Diseases Hospital, owned and administered by the Council, receives patients from Ormskirk and, by arrangement from West Lancashire Rural District Skelmersdale Urban District, Billinge Urban District and Rainford Urban District. Frequently patients from other districts are received when certain infectious disease hospitals are full and Ormskirk Hospital takes the overflow.

The work done during the year is summarised as follows :—

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES FROM THE HOSPITAL'S AREA.

ADMISSIONS 41.		
Scarlet Fever	18	
Diphtheria	7	(1 died)
Typhoid	2	
Typhoid (Observation)	2	
Diphtheria Carriers	3	
Gastric Influenza	1	
Erysipelas	1	
Haemolytic Streptococcal Infections	7	

DISCHARGES—42.

Diphtheria	.....	7 + 1 died
Scarlet Fever	..	16
Hæmolytic Streptococcal Throats		9
Diphtheria Carriers	.....	3
Typhoid (Observation)	.....	1
Paratyphoid	.....	1
Typhoid	.....	2 transferred to Liverpool.
Gastric Influenza	.....	1
Erysipelas	.....	1

ADMISSIONS FROM OUTSIDE DISTRICTS.

Liverpool	.....	2 Scarlet Fever
Huyton	.....	8 Scarlet Fever
		1 Measles Pneumonia
Rainhill	.....	4 Scarlet Fever
		1 Diphtheria (died)
Whiston	.....	2 Scarlet Fever
Eccleston	.....	3 Scarlet Fever
Knowsley	.....	1 Scarlet Fever
Hoscar	.....	1 Diphtheria
Halsall	.....	1 Typhoid
		2 Scarlet Fever
Hightown		1 Scarlet Fever
Scarisbrick		1 Diphtheria Carrier
		1 Hæmolytic Streptococcal Infection
Newburgh		1 Typhoid Carrier
Aughton	.....	1 Paratyphoid
		2 Scarlet Fever
		1 Hæmolytic Streptococcal Infection
Tarleton		5 Scarlet Fever
Sefton		1 Scarlet Fever
Maghull		1 Scarlet Fever
		2 Diphtheria
Aintree		1 Diphtheria
		1 Typhoid
Netherton		2 Scarlet Fever
Banks		2 Diphtheria (1 died).
		1 Diphtheria Carrier

Subjoined is a statement of the outside work done in connection with the Hospital during 1946 :—

Journeys for patients	.....	.....	.....	70
Journeys for bedding	.....	.....	.....	18
No. of houses disinfected	.....	.....	.....	15
No. of rooms disinfected	.....	.....	.....	60
No. of times disinfectant used	.....	.....	.....	65
No. of articles stoved	.....	.....	.....	428

DAY NURSERY.

A Day Nursery was provided by the County Council during the war years in Bridge Street. It was primarily for children whose mothers were engaged on war work. On April 1st, 1946, the premises were transferred to the Education Authority to serve as a Nursery School. Its continuance on these lines is appreciated by parents.

SECTION 3.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of the Town End, Cottage Lane and Halsall Lane area, the area of the Urban District is supplied from the Council's Waterworks undertakings, situated at Dark Lane and Greetby Hill.

The supply at Greetby Hill is obtained from the Bunter Rock in the New Red Sandstone, and that at Dark Lane from the Keuper and Bunter formations.

Both stations are equipped with electric plant operating vertical spindle centrifugal pumps with a combined capacity of over 100,000 gallons per hour.

The quality of water at the present time is of high organic purity and not particularly hard.

The extent to which the demand has increased is indicated by the following comparisons :—

Daily supply, 1934	..	530,000 gallons.
Daily supply, 1945	..	850,000 gallons.

The bulk of the area being typically agricultural, it is unavoidable that certain isolated cottages and farms in the district still obtain their supplies from wells. Schemes for dealing with these have been prepared and the Council has already undertaken an expenditure of £400. Unfortunately, no grants are available for individual properties.

Now that the consumers are provided with a constant pressure of water, there is a definite tendency to waste water, and I consider that with proper care the consumption per head could be substantially reduced. The Council maintain a staff of Water Inspectors, and one of their duties is to reduce the waste of water by regular inspections of water fittings. Taps are re-washed free of charge, and it is in the interest of the inhabitants that they avail themselves of this service and also economise in the use of water.

I append copy of water analysis taken in 1947.

GREETBY HILL WORKS.

	Station No. 1. Depth 250 ft.	Station No. 2. Depth 192 ft.
Type of well	Strata—Red Sandstone	Strata—Red Sandstone
Total solid matter in solution	41.68	29.12
Oxygen required to oxidise—		
In 15 minutes	0.004	0.006
In 3 hours	0.012	0.012
Ammonia	0.001	0.001
Ammonia from Organic matter by distillation with alkaline permanganate	0.001	0.001
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.27	0.44
Nitrogen as Nitrites	None	None
Combined Chlorine	4.35	3.55
Total Hardness	27.8	15.6

OBSERVATIONS.

Re-action to Litmus	Neutral	Faintly acid.
	pH Value 6.7	pH Value 6.3
Dissolved Carbonic Acid	3.6 parts per 100,000	3.6 parts per 100,000.

The Analyses show that these are satisfactory waters for human consumption.

DARK LANE WORKS.

	Station No. 1. Depth 300 ft.	Station No. 2. Depth 120 ft.
Type of well	Strata— Variegated Sandstone	Strata— Variegated Sandstone
Total solid matter in solution	23.84	29.44
Oxygen required to oxidise—		
In 15 minutes	0.004	0.010
In 3 hours	0.012	0.027
Ammonia	0.001	0.001
Ammonia from Organic matter by distillation with alkaline permanganate	0.001	0.003
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.58	0.37
Nitrogen as Nitrites	None	None
Combined Chlorine	2.95	2.65
Total hardness	10.0	11.3

OBSERVATIONS.

Re-action to Litmus	Faintly acid. pH Value 5.9	Faintly acid. pH Value 6.1.
Dissolved Carbonic Acid	2.8 parts per 100,000.	3.5 parts per 100,000.

These Analyses show that these are satisfactory waters for human consumption.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Council maintain three Sewage Disposal Works which deal with Ormskirk, Burscough and Westhead. The sewage is passed through sedimentation tanks and sludge drying beds, the surface effluent being treated by rotary filter and discharged into brooks.

The New Lane works was enlarged in 1943 in order to deal with increased flow due to the Royal Naval Air Station.

The dry weather flow at Ormskirk is approximately 625,000 gallons per day.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT THE END OF 1946.

Number of fresh water closets	4589
,, ,, pail closets	65
,, ,, waste water closets	Nil
,, ,, privies	766
,, ,, privy middens	734
,, ,, dry ashpits	147
,, ,, dustbins	3,627

CONVERSIONS.

There were no conversions carried out during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This work is carried out by the Council's own employees. Two motor vehicles each with three men and a driver, and two horse-drawn vehicles with two men and a driver are provided. The refuse is disposed of either by tipping on any hollow land that is convenient or incineration at the refuse destructor. This however, is of an old type and very small, having only two cells and is used for refuse from the immediately surrounding area and for refuse from shops and houses collected by the horse-drawn vehicles.

The Council's rodent operative visits the tips at regular intervals.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number of premises visited—

Houses	239
Lodging Houses	1
Bakehouses	18
Factories and Workshops	82
Cowsheds and dairies	52
Slaughter houses	1
Shops	10

Number of defects or nuisances discovered 338

Number abated 284

Number of notices served : Informal 338. Statutory 23.

No legal proceedings were taken.

CANAL BOATS.

During the year four canal boats were inspected and their condition was found to be satisfactory.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is now only one Common Lodging House in the district and this is suitable for the accommodation of twenty lodgers. When the house was visited it was always found to be in a clean condition.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public swimming baths or pools in the district. There are two privately-owned swimming baths but they are not open to the public.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year ten observations were made and warnings were given in four cases. It was not found necessary to take any formal action. One of the main causes of the nuisance was the very inferior quality of the coal being supplied to the industries concerned.

A Byelaw made in pursuance of Section 2 of the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926, is in force and prescribes the emission of black smoke for a period of two minutes in the aggregate within any continuous period of thirty minutes from any one chimney in a building other than a private dwelling-house shall, until the contrary is proved, presume to be a nuisance.

CAMPING SITES.

There are no licenced camping sites in the area.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Two houses only were found to be very slightly infested and these were fumigated with Thermatox funigators. Owing to the very slight infestation it was not thought necessary to warrant the use of Hydrogen Cyanide.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

AND

THE INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

The Council's Rodent Operative has again done very useful work in connection with the extermination of rats.

This year all infestations can be classed as minor, which I think indicates that the work being carried out is giving satisfactory results.

During the year 1946 the Roden Operative made the following visits :—

Dwelling houses, 321. Food Stores, 176. Factories, 147. Refuse Tips, 120. Sewage Works, 48. Piggeries, 40. Cafes and Shops, 102. Salvage Depots, 8.

“ All the sewers in the district were again treated, but the number of ” bait takes ” proves to be very small. In Ormskirk the greatest number of “ takes ” were in Ravenscroft Avenue, and in Burscough, near the Packet House Hotel.

Arsenic and zinc phsphide poison baits were used, and both gave satisfactory results.

SECTION 4.

H O U S I N G.

As in all urban districts there is a general shortage of houses and approximately 500 houses, chiefly of the three bedroom type would be required to relieve this shortage.

The general standard of housing in the district can be classed as good, although many of the older type are in need of repair and this work is still being held up owing to the difficulty in obtaining labour and materials.

The Council have schemes in progress for the erection of houses in Ormskirk, Burscough, Newburgh and Westhead.

(a) Statistics.

Number of new houses erected during the year	—	TOTAL	38
(i) By the Local Authority	.....		32
(ii) By other Local Authorities	.....		Nil
(iii) By other bodies and persons	.....		6

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year—*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	239
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	592
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	19
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	19
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	210

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	187
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year—*

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	10
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....	200
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	23
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made....	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

SECTION 5.

SCHOOLS.

The Urban District is provided with fifteen schools. These include one Grammar School, one secondary Modern School, ten Public Elementary Schools, one Nursery School, and two Private Schools.

Descriptions of these Schools were given in the Annual Report for 1945, but the following comments are now added.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Further pre-fabricated huts have been provided in the playground in Mill Street. It is understood that these will be used as dining rooms, thereby freeing the existing dining room in the main building for additional class rooms.

UNITED CHARITY C.E. SCHOOL, DERBY STREET.

Extra accommodation has been made by utilising the Congregational Church Hall, Chapel Street, as a class room. This houses some 40 of the older girls (10-11 years), but has relieved the main school only slightly, owing to increasing school population.

A site for a new junior school has been selected and it is hoped that this school, which is so urgently needed, will soon be started.

UNITED CHARITY C.E. SCHOOL FOR JUNIOR BOYS, AUGHTON STREET.

The numbers here are increasing steadily, partly due to the closing of the kindergarten section of the Grammar School, to which many children under 11 years were previously sent privately.

The new school mentioned above will also take over the Junior Boys in Aughton Street.

NURSERY SCHOOL.

The Day Nursery building in Bridge Street was taken over by the Education Committee on April 1st, 1946, and opened as a Nursery School.

This is a pre-fabricated building of good construction. It has accommodation for 40 children under 5. There is always a waiting list for places there, which shows that it is filling a need in Ormskirk.

LIST OF SCHOOLS IN THE ORMSKIRK URBAN DISTRICT.

Div. No.	School	School No.	No. of Children.
16	Ormskirk Grammar School	120	288 boys. 317 girls.
16	St. John's (Senior) C. of E.	1	82 boys. 86 girls
16	St. John's (Junior) C. of E.	1	40 Boys. 35 Girls
16	Burscough Bridge Methodist	2	109 Boys. 87 Girls
16	St. John's R.C.	3	36 Boys, 45 Girls
16	Lathom Park C. of E.	4	8 Boys. 8 Girls
16	Newburgh C. of E.	5	42 Boys, 38 Girls (Senior), 9 Boys, 13 Girls (Infants)
16	Lathom St. James' C. of E.	6	42 Boys. 44 Girls
16	Lordsgate Township	7	49 Boys, 32 Girls (Senior) 13 Boys, 17 Girls (Infants)
16	Ormskirk United Charity (Junior Boys)	11	221 Junior Boys
16	Ormskirk U.C. (Girls and Infants)	11	108 Boys. 302 Girls
16	St. Anne's R.C.	12	94 Boys, 88 Girls. 112 Mixed Infants
16	Wigan Rd. Secondary Modern	37	130 Senior Boys. 168 Senior Girls
16	Nursery School	150	25 boys. 15 girls.

TABLE SHOWING THE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF EACH SCHOOL IN THE URBAN DISTRICT.

School	Washing Accommodation.	Water Supply	Cloakroom	Closet Accommodation	Feet from School	Drainage.
St. John's (Senior) C.E.	4 basins girls, 3 boys	Public Main	Separate	6 W.C's. girls, 4 W.C's boys.	18	Public Sewer
St. John's (Junior) C.E.	2 basins, 1 sink	"	One only	3 W.C's used in common	18	" "
Burscough Bridge Meth.	3 basins girls, 2 boys, 3 infants	"	Separate	4 W.C's. girls, 4 boys, 4 infants	40	" "
St. John's R.C.	4 basins for communal use	"	One only	5 W.C's girls, 5 boys	0	" "
Lathom Park C.E.	2 basins for communal	"	One only	2 Pail closets girls, 2 boys	60	Open brook
Newburgh C.E.	One sink for girls and infants only	"	Separate	4 Pail closets girls and infants, 2 boys	18	Road Drain
Lathom St. James' C.E.	One sink girls, 1 sink boys	"	Separate	6 Trough closets girls, 3 boys	60	Public Sewer
Lordsgate Township	6 basins girls, 4 boys	"	Separate	4 W.C's. girls, 3 boys	Inside	" "
Ormskirk U.C. Boys	5 basins in cloakroom	"	One-adequate	5 Trough closets	50	" "
Ormskirk U.C. (Girls & Infants)	4 Basins girls, 4 Infants	"	Separate	4 Trough closets girls, 4 Infant boys	120	" "
St. Anne's R.C.	4 basins in passage (Communal)	"	Separate	5 Trough closets Infants and girls, 3 Trough closets boys	5 24	" " " " " "
Wigan Rd. Secondary	13 basins girls, 13 boys	"	Separate	14 W.C's. girls, 5 boys	Inside	" "

ORMSKIRK SCHOOL CLINIC AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE, GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Each Monday.

a.m. Minor Ailments †Dr. Hailwood. Nurse Lloyd.

p.m. Child Welfare Centre Dr. Hailwood. Nurse Lloyd.

Each Tuesday.

p.m. Orthopædic. ‡Mr. McMurray. Nurse Graham.

Each Wednesday.

p.m. Re-dressings. Nurse Lloyd.

Each Friday.

a.m. Dental Clinic Mr. Ashman.

& p.m.

† Dr. Hailwood attends 1st and 3rd Mondays in month only.

‡ Mr. McMurray attends 1st Tuesday in month only.

BURSCOUGH CHILD WELFARE CLINIC (OLD COUNCIL OFFICES).

Each Thursday.

p.m. Child Welfare Clinic. † Dr. Hailwood. Nurse Lloyd.

† Dr. Hailwood attends alternate Thursdays.

IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

Ormskirk Council Offices	p.m. 2nd and 4th Thursday in month at 2 p.m.	Dr. Sergeant and Miss Knight.
Burscough Council Offices	p.m. 1st Monday in month.	Dr. Sergeant and Miss Knight.

SECTION 6

(a) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Dairies and cowsheds are visited at least twice per year, and on the whole their general condition can be classed as satisfactory. It was, however, found necessary to remind the owner that limewashing was overdue and in each case the work was carried out at an early date.

Seventeen samples of milk were taken for examination for B. coli and methylene blue test. Ten proved satisfactory and seven unsatisfactory.

Eight samples were taken for examination for Tubercle Bacilli, seven of which proved to be negative and one positive. This was brought to the notice of the County Council and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and a report was subsequently received from the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry stating that a roan cow had been isolated at the farm in question and later slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1938, and that group samples taken from the remainder of the herd proved negative.

Three bottling licences and four dealers' licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

(b) MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

There is only one licensed slaughter house in the district and this is licensed for the slaughter of pigs only.

During the year 680 pigs were inspected and four whole carcasses and six heads were condemned, all being affected with Tuberculosis.

In addition to the above the following foodstuffs were examined and condemned :—

156 tins Milk, 17 tins Soup, 11 tins Pilchards, 19 tins Peas, 10 tins Marmalade, 26 tins Meat, 8 tins Salmon, 1 Tin Pears, 2 tins Pineapple, 16 tins Beans, 2 tins Mixed Vegetables, 2 tins Syrup, 1 tin Carrots, 18 tins Plums, 5 tins Sardines, 84 lbs. Codfish, 42 lbs. Tea, 221 lbs. Cheese, 19 lbs. Bacon, 83 lbs. Butter, 4 lbs. Oats, 30 lbs. Sultanas, 10 cartons Milk, Chocolate Powder, 38 packets Sponge Pudding Mixture.

(c) ADULTERATION.

The section of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, dealing with adulteration is administered by the Lancashire County Council and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the following information :—

SAMPLES TAKEN DURING 1946.

1 Coffee	2 Butter
1 Tea	1 Margarine
1 Currants	1 Cooking Fat
1 Oatmeal	4 Self Raising Flour
1 Dried Egg	1 Plain Flour
1 Treacle	1 Mustard Compound
2 Dried Peas	3 Lard
1 Split Peas	2 Syrup
3 Bacon	1 Ice Cream
101 Milk	

All these samples were genuine with the exception of four milks, details of which are given below :—

1 Milk	Deficient 20% Fat	Referred to County Sampling Officer for further action.
1 Milk	Deficient 20% Fat	Vendor prosecuted and fined £5, with £8 8s. 0d. costs.
1 Milk	Deficient 17% Fat	
1 Milk	Deficient 5% Fat	Further samples obtained.

SECTION 7.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Seventy-four cases of infectious diseases were notified to the Health Department during the year, of these 43 were cases of Scarlet Fever which occurred in small numbers throughout the year.

Measles notifications were 6 only—1946 proving, as expected, to be a year when Measles incidence was low throughout the country.

Notifications of Diphtheria numbered 6, of which 3 were over school age. One death occurred.

Two cases of Paratyphoid Fever were also notified. These were admitted to Hospital for treatment, and both recovered.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation against Diphtheria has been continued during the year and a total of 308 children completed a course of Immunisation, of whom 136 were between 1 and 2 years of age, or 50 per cent. of all the babies born in 1945. Although this is a good percentage, it is urged that all children should be immunised by their second birthday, after which age the disease takes its greatest toll.

The following table shows the number of children who have been immunised since re-inception of the Council's Scheme in 1935 :—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of persons, in age groups, completely immunised.

Age	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	6	1	2	—	17	
1 year	2	1	—	—	1	2	101	84	65	89	133	136	
2 „	6	1	—	1	2	14	101	99	18	11	31	39	Total under 5 years at end of 1946
3 „	3	2	1	—	4	11	75	83	12	10	19	29	
4 „	8	1	—	1	1	11	98	78	20	17	14	24	
5 „	7	—	2	1	—	21	242	96	22	16	41	29	
6 „	13	1	—	1	1	19	150	91	15	10	17	16	
7 „	7	—	—	—	4	13	161	60	9	12	33	7	Total 5-9 years at end of 1946.
8 „	4	1	1	1	—	27	201	75	8	10	31	9	
9 „	4	1	—	1	—	15	196	67	8	7	21	2	1203
10 „	3	3	1	1	—	29	207	76	11	13	19	3	
11 „	3	2	1	1	1	8	229	73	4	14	12	2	Total 10-14 years at end of 1946.
12 „	3	—	—	—	—	5	207	59	2	9	29	—	
13 „	—	—	—	—	—	1	198	42	7	3	21	2	1645
14 „	1	2	—	—	—	2	42	19	1	1	5	—	
15 years and over	2	—	—	—	—	—	12	20	5	1	—	—	Total over 14 at end of 1946 1269
TOTAL	66	15	6	8	14	177	2220	1028	208	225	426	315	4719

Total number of children who were given reinforcing injections — 205
Total number of children under 14 who have been immunised — 3450

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1946.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.														Total Deaths.	Hospital.	
	Total Cases at all Ages.	YEARS.														Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district
		Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over			
Scarlet Fever	43			1	4	22	11	3	2						24		
Diphtheria	6					1	2	1	1		1				6	1	
Measles	6					5	1										
Pneumonia	14		1		1	1		1			2	7	1			7	
Erysipelas	3										1	1	1		1		
Para-Typhoid Fever ..	2		1									1			2		
TOTALS	74	2	1	5	29	14	5	3	4	9	2	33	1				

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER AND NATURE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
COMING UNDER THE NOTICE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH DURING 1946

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	5	7	9	3	3	1		1	4	1	4	5	43
Diphtheria			3			1	1					1	6
Pneumonia	2	2			5		1	1		1	1	1	14
Erysipelas			2						1				3
Measles					1		3	1			1		6
Para-Typhoid Fever								2					2
Monthly Totals	7	9	14	3	9	2	5	5	5	2	6	7	74

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1946.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0—								
1—			1	1				
5—				1				
10—				1				
15—								
20—		1	1			1		
25—		2	2			2		
35—	2	3		1	1	1		
45—								
55—	1				1			
65 and upwards	1							
Totals	4	6	4	4	2	4		
	10		8		6		Nil	

The services of the County Tuberculosis Officer were found valuable and were much appreciated. In all cases notification was prompt.

